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FRANK E. LANGLEY, Publisher

It is rather definitely decided that Mister Villa is still alive.

Cuba has learned about democracy altogether too rapidly for its own good.

Belgians possessing pianos are not to be reported to Germany, it is currently reported.

It is to your advantage to know that there are only 17 more shopping days before Christmas.

The capital of Rumania may change its name to Butcher-the-Rest, meaning all that are left.

Chief Justice is going out by the way of the supreme court front door and doing it decorously, too.

The next German submarine may bring the new Austrian ambassador as one of the crew. And then Austria, as well as Germany, will have the laugh on Great Britain.

Casualties at Uniontown, Penn., on Dec. 2: two dead and 12 injured. And all because of motor speed mania! Some of the recklessness of the highways was diverted to the speed track.

Having seen what happened to Rumania, Greece might be excused for not wishing to join the entente allies at this juncture. The central powers are yet too strong to make the venture safe.

Every invasion into new territory during the war adds just so much to the world's knowledge of geography. Many sections of the world are coming back into memory after the days of "jography" in the school days.

Perhaps the reason why the Germans are deporting so many Belgians from the invaded territory is that the Germans have found the Belgians on the other side of the line altogether too industrious for the good of Germany, and they fear for the loss of any more of the potential workers if the allies should advance their line most unexpectedly.

There should be no great rejoicing in Berlin over the upheaval of Great Britain's navy, because the upheaval undoubtedly means an aim at greater efficiency of the mastery of the sea. By the way, why doesn't Germany come out and claim the mastery of the sea, said to have been won in the battle of Jutland some six months back. The progress of events disputes the claim of the German defeat of the high sea fleet of the British navy and the consequent breaking of Britain's rule of the waves. If the German victory was anything but a myth, there would be a German fleet steaming about in triumph and ready for all comers.

Deer hunters should bear in mind that the open season ends promptly at 5 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 5, and that if they kill a deer even within quarter of an hour after that time they will lay themselves just as liable as if they had killed the animal in March or June or September. It is to be presumed that all hunters have fortified themselves with this information already; but it will do no harm to remind them of it at this time. So, from 5 o'clock of Dec. 5, the deer of Vermont will be protected until another open season rolls around in 1917. It is to be hoped that game wardens in every section of the state will be energetic and watchful to see that the law is strictly enforced in this respect.

The death list from football in the United States during the 1916 season was entirely too large, even at 15 killed. That is, it is too large for a sport which is the development of civilization rather than of barbarism. That all but one of the deaths for the season were to be found outside of the ranks of the colleges indicates that the game under competent supervision need not be the death-dealing agency that it now seems to be. Fourteen of the deaths occurred in the ranks of schoolboy athletes or among those who play the game only now and then and without much regard to set rules of training. The so-called semi-professional games were the chief producers of casualties. Those games are participated in by players who are their own judges of physical condition and ability to withstand the hard knocks of the games. It is no wonder that the football casualties are large.

GUARD THE PRESIDENT!

Quite frequently of late persons of doubtful mentality have endeavored to approach President Wilson as that official has been going about in the discharge of his duties or in seeking the recreation to which he is entitled. In no instance has the intruder been able to get near the president because of the watchfulness of the men who have been appointed to care for his safety; but the persistence of the efforts of the intruders has been such as to warrant even greater efforts to safeguard the life of the executive during the period of stress incident to the great war. No doubt there are persons at large in the United States who feel that President Wilson has done something detrimental to the interests

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of the one side or the other in the great conflict of arms; and if those persons be afflicted with weak mentality they will brood over the affair until it comes to a state in which they will harbor a personal antagonism to the head of the United States government. In that condition of mind they become a menace. Therefore, there should be no relaxing of watchfulness at this time but rather a tightening of the lines of protection of President Wilson. The need for this was illustrated during the visit of the executive during the last week-end in New York. Let there be no further reflection on the ability of a free and independent people to protect those who are raised to high positions in councils of state.

CURRENT COMMENT

Money is Not Naval Power.

The navy department is already preparing to submit to Congress plans calling for a naval appropriation of \$379,000,000 next year, or \$84,000,000 more than the great total voted this year. Of even greater importance, however, is the prompt and effective expenditure of the millions allowed already for national defense.

It is discouraging to learn that the launching of the superdreadnought New Mexico cannot be accomplished in time to permit the keel of the Tennessee to be laid in January at the Brooklyn navy yard. Riveters cannot be secured in sufficient numbers to press the steel construction work is the excuse. Thus one thing and another has been permitted to delay the beginning of work on the two superdreadnoughts authorized two years ago and which should now be far advanced toward completion.

An efficient preparedness must surmount difficulties, not make excuses. And Congress besides finding dollars to build a bigger navy must find means of getting sailors to man it. Man power for our fleet can no longer be neglected without great danger to the country.—New York Evening Sun.

Norwich University's Work.

The Rough Riders' association—survivors of the famous regiment of volunteer cavalry in the Spanish war—do well to take in hand the work of building a commemorative Commons hall at Norwich university, Northfield, Vt., in honor of the distinguished graduates of that institution. Norwich university, a "little school," financially poor but rich in industry and zeal, has been turning out not only generals and admirals, but cabinet ministers and governors, for a hundred years, without any fuss at all; and its surprising record of accomplishment, on a basis of no wealth, is beginning to attract attention in the world. No doubt Norwich, which has now entered upon a new period of development along modern lines, will be glad to get the Commons hall with the \$10,000 which the rough riders can easily raise, but it is now more in need of endowment than of buildings. With an endowment of a million dollars, which the fame that the college has lately won, and the zeal and enterprise of its new president, ought to win for it, the buildings which Norwich needs will gradually be added unto it.—Boston Transcript.

More War on Waste.

The woodlot is beginning to come into its own. State Forester A. F. Hawes announces plans for enlarging the aid, which his department has been rendering woodlot owners so as to include the marketing of cordwood and logs. He has already gotten into touch with the farmers of several counties through county agents, and the neglected woodlot, that once served merely to keep farm hands busy during the reign of Jack Frost, is rising in the scale of economic importance.

"The chief difficulty," says an official bulletin that has just come out, "which the farmer has to-day in selling his wood and logs is due to the limited amount which he has of any one kind. Except for his own use it is hardly worth while to have his logs custom-sawed, because he cannot ship his lumber in carload lots. The mill man buying from several land owners is in a position to do this. Woodlot owners, however, often suffer either because of their distance from a mill, or because of the utter lack of competition between buyers."

Mr. Hawes advises farmers to hold on to their woodlots, and not sell them for a lump sum to the first buyer who comes along. Every farm, in his opinion, should have a woodlot not only as an income producer, but for home use. He suggests the formation of co-operative wood marketing associations after the pattern of co-operative creameries. Whenever such an association has obtained control of 1,000 acres or more in woodlots he and his men will make a marketing study of the property. The study will include an inventory of the classes of lumber and wood available and recommendations for marketing it.

The department will continue to work through county agents, and the marketing will be only the final step in the various other items of help, such as mark-

Girls

Feast your eyes on this boot.

It's a dream.

Black Kid, high heel, turn sole, with the late wave top.

In keeping with the rest of your attire, but yet just a bit more chic than ordinary.

Many other styles just as good.

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Walk-Over

Rogers' Walk-Over Boot Shop

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Mackinaws

You know the kind of mackinaw coats we've sold for the past three years. You know they're as good as any made.

You know we guarantee the quality, the color, and the price, and say! did you know we had cut the price on a few that we carried over from last year?

Fifteen left this morning and automatically reduced 10 per cent. each day this week. To-day a \$10.00 coat is \$8.10; Tuesday, \$7.30, etc.

Watch our window.

F. H. Rogers & Co.

GOOD ROADS HELP.

To Increase the Value of Farms, Government Finds.

To determine as far as possible the exact dollars and cents effect on a county of the improvement of bad roads, specialists of the office of public roads and rural engineering of the U. S. department of agriculture made economic surveys in eight counties in each of the years from 1910 to 1915, inclusive.

This study of the increase in the value of farm lands in the eight counties reveals the rather interesting fact that following the improvement of the main roads the increase in the selling price of tillable farm lands served by the roads has amounted to from one to three times the total of the improvements. The increase in values in those instances which were recorded ranged from 63 per cent to 80 per cent in Spottsylvania county, Va.; from 68 to 194 in Dinwiddie county, Va.; 70 to 80 in Lee county, Va.; 25 to 100 in Wise county, Va.; 19 to 114 in Franklin county, Va.; 50 to 100 in Dallas county, Ala.; 25 to 50 in Lauderdale county, Miss.; and from 50 to 100 in Manatee county, Fla. The estimates of increase were based for the most part upon the territory within a distance of one mile on each side of the roads improved.

In Spottsylvania county a careful record was made in 1910 of 35 farms located on the road selected for improvement. Of the seven farms sold in 1912, the prices actually paid show increases of from 37 to 116 per cent over the 1910 valuation. The average increase per acre was improved was \$28.26 per acre as compared with \$17.31 previous to the improvement. In 1913, four tracts of farm land were on the basis of \$30.41 per acre, whereas the properties were listed in 1910 at only \$15.80 per acre. It appears that 1,451 acres sold in 1913 increased in value \$28,500, or 80 per cent, or from \$24.46 to \$44.10 per acre.

In Dinwiddie county, Va., the actual price of 43 farms sold or offered for sale from 1909 to 1914 ranged in price from \$8.38 to \$43.74 per acre before the roads were built, and from \$24.70 to \$73.60 per acre after the roads were improved.

In Lee county, Va., a study of eight tracts along the roads before and after improvement indicated that these properties increased about \$23 per acre, or about 70 per cent.

In Wise county, Va., a study of eight representative farms located on roads showed that they increased in value from an average of \$49.06 per acre before improvement to \$79.44 after the roads were improved. There were increases in valuation in other sections of from \$60 to \$90, or even \$100 per acre.

In Franklin county, N. Y., the figures seem to indicate that the change from earth, sandy, and loam roads to bituminous macadam was followed by increases averaging \$12.50 per acre, or about 30.7 per cent.

In Dallas county, Ala., careful investigation seemed to indicate that road improvement has added at least \$5 to each acre of land within a half mile of improved roads. Tracts sold at from \$8 to \$10 per acre were sold again after road improvement at from \$20 to \$25 per acre.

In Lauderdale county, Miss., the total assessed valuation of real property outside of the city was \$2,757,546. This increased in 1914 after road improvement to \$3,183,869, or 15.4 per cent. Local real estate men place the increase in land values on account of improved roads at from 25 to 50 per cent.

In Manatee county, Fla., careful study of sales and real estate records indicated that the improvement of roads has added from 15 to 100 per cent, or at least \$15 per acre, to the selling price of all lands within one-half mile of improved roads. This would give a total of \$611,000, or more than twice the value of the bonds issued.

Special values in coats at Abbott's.

MONTPELIER

Death of Edward Docherty Occurred Sunday After Long Illness.

Edward Docherty died Sunday morning at 7:30 o'clock at his home, 17 Foster street, after an illness of eight months with intestinal trouble. He was operated upon at Heaton hospital a few weeks ago. The deceased was born in Netherthorn, Scotland, July 4, 1871, and came to Montpelier with his family six years ago, being employed during his residence here by the Barre & Montpelier traction company as a motorman and repair man. He belonged to Aurora lodge of Masons, the local Aerie of Eagles and the Carman's union. He is survived by a wife, Marian Roy, to whom he was married in 1893, three children, James, Elizabeth and Katherine of Montpelier, and three brothers, John of Montpelier and James and Donald of Scotland; and a sister, Mrs. Donald Little of Scotland.

The funeral of Burton B. Gale was held at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon at his late home on Edwards street, Rev. Stanley E. Blomfield officiating. The bearers were his four sons, Pliny, Kenneth, Allen and Julian Gale. Burial was made in Green Mount cemetery.

The local tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men has rented the Union block known as Bailey hall, assuming charge of the rooms Dec. 1. The front rooms will be used as club rooms and the hall in the rear will be rented for dances. The other part of the floor is used by the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Olney's Plan.

The proposal which Mr. Richard Olney has presented to the Newlands committee deserve attention not only because they emanate from a man of sound legal judgment and long political experience, but because they embody conclusions which have been steadily crystallizing in the public mind during the last few years. Our present system of regulating the railroads, if not already intolerable, is rapidly becoming so. It rests on the theory that a clear distinction can be made between interstate commerce and commerce which is carried on wholly within the limits of a single state. It assumes that the several states shall charter the railroads and in so doing fix their powers, while the national government determines their obligation to shippers, employees and the public.

But as a practical matter no such distinctions and assumptions can ever be the basis of a satisfactory scheme of regulation. No branch of a railroad's business can be without its effect on all other branches, and where a regulating authority touches one it indirectly touches all. Here is where the system of dual control is breaking down. The several states determine the capitalization, borrowing powers and the general organization of common carriers through their control of incorporation, while Congress proceeds to fix the conditions of service, to regulate the hours of labor and to determine the wages of employees without reference to any of the matters which lie within state control. No other country attempts to supervise its transportation companies in this disjointed way, nor can we tolerate its chaos many years longer.

Mr. Olney's solution is the federal incorporation of all railroads doing interstate business, thereby ensuring them uniform and adequate powers. This transfer of practical difficulties which Mr. Olney has clearly foreseen; but they would not prove insuperable. They would, in fact, be trifles compared with the waste and folly of government ownership. To the railroads the plan of federal incorporation would not have been welcome a generation ago, but as a means of relief from the hampering conditions of the present day it will unquestionably have their sympathy.—Boston Herald.

don't mark time step-lively!

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WAITSFIELD

Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Remele returned Friday from several weeks' stay in New York and Boston.

Walter B. Freeman and Mrs. Bertha Freeman were united in marriage at the Congregational parsonage by Rev. W. A. Remele Friday evening, Dec. 1.

Miss Eva-Annie Bisbee, who has been spending several weeks at her home here, returned Friday to Barre.

Friday evening Walter Gaylord, eldest son of E. B. Gaylord, was pleasantly surprised at the home of his parents, when some 25 friends and neighbors gathered, the occasion being his 22d birthday. A pleasant evening was spent in games. The guests presented Mr. Gaylord a sum of money, and his parents presented him a gold watch. Refreshments were served.

The South school closed the fall term Wednesday, Nov. 29, with an entertainment. A play, "I'd Be Thankful If—," and Thanksgiving exercises were given by the children.

Readings were given by Miss Eva-Annie Bisbee and much pleasure was given by graphophone selections. In spite of the rain, between 60 and 70 persons were present. The sum of \$10 was realized from the box supper, which money is to be used directly for the benefit of the school. The teacher, Miss L. Jean Bisbee, wishes to thank all those who by their presence and co-operation helped to make the affair such a success.

Everett Wallis was home from Goddard for the Thanksgiving recess.

Miss Elsie M. Long and Miss Clara Berry returned Monday to Johnson Normal school.

Harold Wallis was home from U. V. M. for the Thanksgiving vacation.

Miss Mary Gupit of Waterbury is a guest of her sister, Mrs. E. H. Jones.

Coming, Thursday evening, Dec. 7, Elizabeth DeBarrie Gill, as third number of the Rebekah lecture course.

Union prayer meeting in the Congregational church Thursday evening at 7:30. All persons having any articles for the McIntosh bazaar are asked to leave same at Mrs. A. W. Bigelow's.

WASHINGTON.

Remember the sale at the hall Wednesday evening by the ladies of the Universalist church. Supper will be served from 6 to 8. All come.

William S. Smith has moved to Barre, but was back in town over Sunday.

SOUTH BARRE.

Old and young folk's dance at grange hall, Thursday, Dec. 7. Montpelier orchestra. Dance from 8 to 12. Bill, 50c. Old and new dances. Ice cream and cake extra.—adv.

WEST BERLIN

Miss Lottie Parsons from Northfield spent a few days with her father, George Parsons, last week.

Mrs. C. A. Patterson and Miss Claudia Robinson were in Montpelier one day last week.

Mrs. A. S. Libby and daughter, Myra, have been very poorly of late with grip, but are better now.

Mrs. Martha Johnston and daughter, Mrs. Lora Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rice and son from Plainfield were guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Gilman Nov. 28.

Mrs. Will Scott and children from Barre spent Nov. 28 with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Coburn.

Joel Richardson from Worcester visited his nephew Leslie Bosley last week.

The Thanksgiving program that was given by the school children in this place last Tuesday evening was a success in every way, the receipts of the evening being a little over \$8.

Miss Catherine Clark spent a few days last week with her mother, Mrs. Florence Clark, in Montpelier.

Don't forget to come out to ladies' aid hall next Thursday evening at 8 o'clock to hear Miss Gertrude House give a reading on "Pollyanna" and other selections. Come, everyone.

Mrs. L. A. Stiles left here Saturday for her home in Mount Vernon, N. Y., where she spends her winters with her son, Mark Gilman. She stopped at East Haven, Conn., to visit Prof. E. A. Cooper and family over Sunday.

The ladies' aid will meet at their hall Thursday evening at 7 o'clock for a short business meeting. Come early.

Ancestor of the Ginkgo Tree.

Among the fossils found in North Dakota is what appears to have been the ginkgo or maidenhair tree of China and Japan. The geologic history of the ginkgo is in many ways more wonderful than that of any other tree now living. This strange tree has come down to us practically unchanged from earliest Mesozoic time. It apparently saw its heyday during what is known as the Jurassic period, millions of years ago, when it was widely spread from the Arctic regions over most of the globe, but since that time it has been gradually dwindling until it is now represented by a single living species in Japan and China. In the far east it is regarded as a sacred tree, and as such is planted about the temples and sanctuaries, but there is great doubt as to its existence in a truly wild state. It is not likely to become extinct, however, for its fascinating history and curious fernlike foliage have made it so interesting that it has been extensively planted in many parts of the world, notably in southern Europe and in the eastern part of the United States.

TO OUR CHRISTMAS TRADE

Judging by the poses made in the last few days and by the numerous appointments given, we wish to notify the public not to wait until the last moment for their Christmas sittings, that we may be in a position to finish their work very neatly, accurately, and in the time desired.

Artistic Calendar with your picture given FREE with Christmas sittings, so come early.

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RUBBERS

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ONLY 17 Shopping Days Before Christmas Time to Begin!